

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-24 (cancelled).

Claim 25 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, wherein the flat display is an electronic cathode-ray picture tube.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, wherein the flat display is an LCD-display.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, wherein the flat display screen is an LED-display.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, wherein said attachment represents a flat cover.

Claims 29-30 (cancelled).

Claim 31 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, wherein said at least one switching/controlling element disposed on/in said attachment is a micro-key, rotary control or linear path selector.

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Claim 32 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, wherein said at least one switching/controlling element is electrically connected to other electric/electronic components (microprocessors) by means of a printed circuit.

Claims 33-35 (canceled).

Claim 36 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, further comprising a graphic display that indicates switching conditions.

Claim 37 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, further comprising graphics that show a television picture.

Claim 38 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, wherein said attachment is made of plastic.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, wherein said attachment is made of metal.

Claim 40 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, wherein said attachment has breakthrough openings that serve as windows.

Claim 41 (canceled).

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Claim 42 (currently amended): The device according to claim 40, wherein said attachment has surfaces between said breakthroughs openings that receive switching/controlling elements.

Claim 43 (canceled).

Claim 44 (currently amended): The device according to claim 45 48, wherein the flat display is a plasma display tube.

Claims 45-46 (canceled).

Claim 47 (new): A method for representing a surface comprising the steps of:

(a) coupling an at least partially-transparent attachment in front of a commercially available flat display, the attachment having at least one electrical switching/control element and the flat display being divided via software into a plurality of areas of which at least one area is arranged radially relative to the at least one electrical switching/control element; and

(b) creating visible areas on the flat display using a commercially available software so that the individual areas dynamically indicate different functional states of a connected device at the same time.

Claim 48 (new): A device for use with a commercially available flat display comprising:

(a) an at least partially transparent attachment coupled in front of the commercially available flat display;

(b) at least one electrical switching/control element integrated with said attachment;

wherein the flat display is divided into a plurality of areas via software of which at least one area is arranged radially relative to the at least one electrical switching/control element and visible areas on the flat display are created using a commercially available software so that the individual areas dynamically indicate different functional states of a connected device at the same time.